



# Department of Defense DIRECTIVE

NUMBER 5000.57

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USD(A)

SUBJECT: Defense Acquisition University

References: (a) Sections 1744, 1746, and 1762 of title 10, United States Code  
(b) Section 1205 of Public Law 101-510, "National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1991," November 5, 1990 (set out in 10 U.S.C. 1746 note)  
(c) [DoD Directive 5105.4](#), "Department of Defense Federal Advisory Committee Management Program," September 5, 1989  
(d) Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Memorandum CM 344-90, "Military Education Policy Document," May 1, 1990

## 1. PURPOSE

This Directive:

- 1.1. Implements Section 1746 of reference (a) and Section 1205 of reference (b).
- 1.2. Establishes the Defense Acquisition University.
- 1.3. Provides for a senior course, as a part of a Senior Acquisition Education Program, as a substitute for, and equivalent to, existing senior professional military education. The senior course shall be specifically designed for civilian and military personnel serving in critical acquisition positions.

## 2. APPLICABILITY

This Directive applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense; the Military Departments; the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff; the Unified and Specified Commands; the Inspector General of the Department of Defense; the Defense Agencies; and the DoD Field Activities (hereafter referred to collectively as "the DoD Components").

## 3. MISSION

The mission of the Defense Acquisition University shall be to educate and train professionals for effective service in the defense acquisition system; to achieve more efficient and effective use of available acquisition resources by coordinating DoD acquisition education and training programs and tailoring them to support the careers of personnel in acquisition positions; and to develop education, training, research, and publication capabilities in the area of acquisition.

## 4. ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT

4.1. There is hereby established the Defense Acquisition University. The Defense Acquisition University shall be under the direction, authority, and control of the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition) (USD(A)).

4.2. A President of the university, who shall be appointed by the Secretary of Defense, shall be the chief executive officer of the university and shall report to the USD(A).

4.3. The university shall be structured, and shall operate, as an educational consortium. Consortium participants shall include DoD Component education and training institutions, organizations, and activities providing courses necessary to satisfy the acquisition, education and training requirements specified by the USD(A). Consortium participants shall remain a part of existing commands and shall retain control over their faculty and day-to-day activities. The university shall include the Defense Systems Management College.

4.4. Memoranda of Agreement (MOAs) shall be negotiated between the university and each consortium participant and shall establish authority and accountability for the mission of each participant and its role in the university. MOAs shall define, at a minimum, mechanisms to establish and fund the participant's level of effort; the participant's responsibilities, including course development and delivery; quality standards; information reporting requirements; research and publications; other elements of the university mission to be supported by the participant; and delegations of authority.

4.5. A council, chaired by the USD(A) and composed of selected DoD officials, shall recommend university policy and perform other advisory functions as requested by the USD(A).

4.6. The USD(A), after coordination with the Director of Administration and Management, shall establish a board of visitors composed of persons selected for their preeminence in academia, business, and the defense industry in accordance with DoD Directive 5105.4 (reference (c)). It shall advise the university President and the USD(A) on organization management, curricula, methods of instruction, facilities, and other matters of interest to the university.

4.7. Military personnel shall be assigned to the university in accordance with approved authorizations.

## 5. RESPONSIBILITIES AND FUNCTIONS

5.1. The Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition) shall:

5.1.1. Establish objectives to achieve the efficient and effective use of available acquisition resources by coordinating Department of Defense acquisition education and training programs and tailoring them to support the careers of civilian and military personnel in acquisition positions.

5.1.2. Establish education and training standards, requirements, and courses for the civilian and military acquisition workforce.

5.1.3. Establish an appropriate centralized programming and budgeting mechanism to control the allocation of resources for conducting mandatory acquisition courses and other training, education, and research activities to achieve the objectives of the university, including funding for students to attend courses of instruction, and funding to conduct the courses and pay faculty and staff salaries.

5.1.4. Determine priorities for attendance at university courses and approve quota allocations to the DoD Components.

5.1.5. Provide staff and financial resources to support the university and its acquisition education, training, and research requirements, and approve any proposed adjustments in staffing, facilities, the university budget, and the Program Objectives Memorandum submission.

5.1.6. Provide guidance and direction to the President of the university on policies and procedures related to the development and operation of the university.

5.1.7. Establish a Senior Acquisition Education Program for civilian and military acquisition professionals comprised of a variety of offerings equivalent to senior professional military education to cover the broad spectrum of disciplines represented in the acquisition workforce.

5.1.8. After coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, establish the acquisition content of a senior course at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) as a part of the Senior Acquisition Education Program for acquisition professionals. The senior course will be the preeminent course for civilian and military members of the Acquisition Corps.

5.1.9. Organize, direct, and manage the university and assigned resources for operating the education, training, research, and publication program for acquisition personnel.

5.1.10. Negotiate, execute, terminate, and oversee the terms of the MOAs and other agreements between the university and consortium participants, and coordinate MOAs with the participant's parent organization.

5.1.11. Establish the resourcing needs to meet the Department of Defense's acquisition education and training requirements for the Future Years Defense Plan (FYDP).

5.1.12. Establish the DoD Components' annual course quota allocations a year prior to scheduled courses.

5.1.13. Sub-allocate resources annually to the DoD Components and consortium participants to support negotiated requirements for facilities maintenance, equipment purchase and upgrade, student travel and per diem, curriculum and materials development, course delivery, research and publications, faculty and staff salaries, and administrative overhead.

5.1.14. Select course providers and certify courses to ensure that the university courses support a coherent framework for the educational development of personnel in acquisition positions, from the basic level through intermediate and senior levels, as specified in Section 1746 of 10 U.S.C. (reference (a)), Section 1205 of Pub. L. 101-510 (reference (b)), and in related USD(A) policies governing the Career Development Program for Acquisition Personnel. Establish course additions, modifications, deletions, and equivalencies, as appropriate.

5.1.15. Establish quality and performance standards, consistent with established standards of consortium participants and the DoD Components, to govern the curriculum content and delivery of acquisition education and training courses. Ensure that consortium participants adhere to these standards. Standards for the Senior Program will be guided by CM-344-90 (reference (d)).

5.1.16. Foster informed debate, the examination of acquisition issues, and the development of university faculty by supporting research, including symposia and conferences, and by developing and maintaining publication capabilities in acquisition-related subject areas.

5.1.17. Manage the DoD Acquisition Scholarship Program authorized by 10 U.S.C. 1744 (reference (a)).

5.1.18. Publish an annual catalog listing the university's acquisition education and training courses, including schedules, locations, and enrollment procedures.

5.1.19. Develop a system for, and maintain records on, student enrollment, no-shows, graduates, and related student and course data.

5.1.20. Provide data, as appropriate, for the Secretary's annual report to Congress as specified in 10 U.S.C. 1762 (reference (a)).

5.2. The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall:

5.2.1. Provide representation on the policy guidance council established by the USD(A) to provide advice in relation to the university.

5.2.2. Ensure that the President, National Defense University, and the Commandant, ICAF, provide the senior course for acquisition personnel serving in critical positions.

5.2.3. Ensure, in coordination with the USD(A), the relevance of the ICAF acquisition curriculum to the educational needs of senior acquisition professionals.

5.3. The Assistant Secretary of Defense (Force Management and Personnel) shall advise and assist the USD(A) in establishing civilian personnel policy, programs, and rates of pay pertaining to 10 U.S.C. 1746(b) (reference (a)) regarding employment and compensation of civilian faculty members.

5.4. The Heads of the DoD Components shall:

5.4.1. Ensure that the DoD Component education and training institutions and activities develop effective working relationships with the university and carry out their responsibilities as defined in the MOAs.

5.4.2. Provide to the university the annual acquisition personnel training requirements; budget requirements for student travel and per diem; and participating school operating costs for each DoD acquisition course for the upcoming fiscal year. Participate with the university in formalizing class schedules and allocating student quotas to meet requirements.

5.4.3. Support the USD(A) and the university President in developing a centralized Planning, Programming, and Budgeting System submission under the FYDP for all DoD acquisition education, training, and research requirements overseen by the USD(A).

5.4.4. Provide facilities, civilian and military personnel, and other support and assistance required to accomplish the university's objectives, consistent with this Directive and, in particular, the responsibilities and functions in paragraph 5.1., above, and the authorities in section 7., below.

5.4.5. Select and schedule candidates for the Senior Program and determine equivalencies of offerings based on the DoD Components' needs and the career development requirements of personnel serving in critical acquisition positions.

## 6. RELATIONSHIPS

6.1 In the performance of assigned responsibilities and functions, the university President shall:

6.1.1. Maintain appropriate liaison with the DoD Components, other Government Agencies, and other public and private sector organizations and educational institutions for the exchange of information concerning assigned programs, activities, and responsibilities.

6.1.2. Use established facilities and services of the Department of Defense and other Federal Agencies, whenever practicable, to avoid duplication and to achieve modernization, efficiency, economy, and user satisfaction.

6.2. The Heads of the DoD Components shall coordinate with the USD(A) on all matters related to the responsibilities and functions listed in paragraph 5.1., above.

## 7. AUTHORITIES

The USD(A) is specifically delegated authority to:

7.1. Manage the resourcing and execution of the Department of Defense's acquisition education and training program.

7.2. Have free and direct access to, and communicate with, the DoD Components and other Executive Departments and Agencies concerning the operation of the Department of Defense's acquisition education and training program.

7.3. Enter into agreements with the DoD Components and other Government entities to perform the university mission and execute its programs.

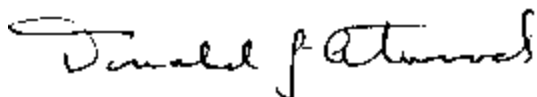
7.4. Establish university facilities if needed facilities or services of other DoD Components are not available. New facilities and services will be established using normal procedures and program and budget processes.

7.5. Obtain reports, information, advice, and assistance from the DoD Components consistent with the responsibilities and functions specified in paragraph 5.1., above.

7.6. Issue DoD Instructions to implement this Directive.

8. EFFECTIVE DATE AND IMPLEMENTATION

This Directive is effective immediately.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Donald J. Atwood".

Donald J. Atwood  
Deputy Secretary of Defense